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FEBRUARY, 1915

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Honesty in City Advertising
February Vegetable and Flower Gardens
Seeds, Seedlings and Soils
Dahlias—Roses—A Walk in the Rain
Bulb Flower Show, March 19, 20 & 21

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WE shall have ready for delivery after January 1, several thousand Budded Avocado Trees. But we call your particular attention to this:

Among all these there are 2000 trees that are extra large and fine. They are the cream of our entire nursery. They are the best Avocado Trees we have ever grown. Will you want some of them? Such trees usually sell at $5 to $10 each. They are field grown, low-branching, stocky, shapely, specimen trees, averaging about 4 feet in height and many of them will be 5 feet when delivered.

We will sell them on advance orders at $4 each, payable one-half with order, the balance at time of delivery. The varieties are as choice as the trees—Taft, Dickey No. 2, Meserve, Queretaro, and El Fuerte—all large fruiting kinds.

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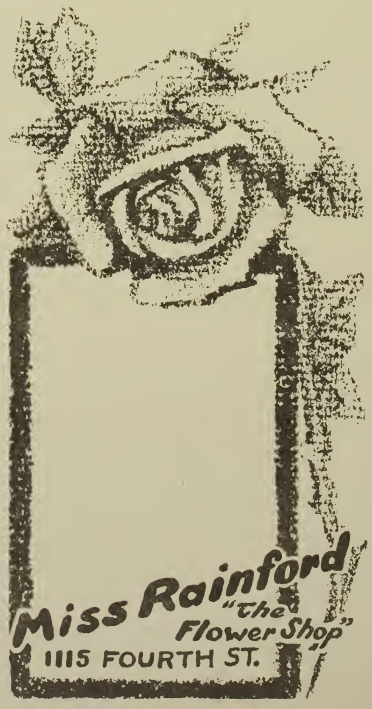

See the Million-Dollar Scales

Did you know that San Diego was once the scene of rather extensive gold diggings? It was. And the "Million Dollar Scales" were used for years to weigh gold dust and native gems.

You are cordially invited to inspect these relics of San Diego's pioneer days at this bank. Their history will interest you.

Security Commercial & Savings Bank

Fifth and "F" Streets
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Merchants National Bank

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Tuberous Rooted Begonias (8 Separate Colors Just received from Guernsey)

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Nice lot of **Rubrum & Auratum Lilies and Tuberoses**

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Both Phones **Harris Seed Company** *824 F Street*

Branch Yard and Store, 30th and M Sts.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association

One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 6 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY, 1915 No. 8

Honesty in Advertising Cities

THE advertising men are going on record as advocating the placing of fake advertisements where they belong with other lies. May this prove a sign of the times and a precursor of similar treatment for the equally ubitquitous real estate brand. The subject is in our mind because a recent letter from Northern California contained this news item," A man from your part of the world is up here selling acre lots for self-sustaining homes. The man has a fine office and is a cunning talker; he is connected with a real estate firm which bought the land two years ago for $50.00 an acre, they are selling it off at the rate of $2000.00 per acre. The land has been used for pasture for fifty years and is fit for nothing else." Then comes the query, "Can nothing be done to protect the poor victims in a case like this?"

We are in a position to know that our informant is perfectly capable of estimating land values in these parts, and is not given to exaggeration, and even were this not so, the case might serve as typical of a not uncommon procedure.

The reputable real estate operators, and there are many such, should demand that their business be cleansed of the odium attaching to it from such manipulations as the above. One powerful factor in this direction would be to class a liar about real estate as on a par with any other kind of a liar and not laugh at his smartness. Recently a real estater when discussing the question of his responsibility in making a deal said, " We don't deceive the people; they deceive themselves. They have made up their minds about California lands and their possibilities before they leave the East, from literature sent broadcast from the State, emanating from cities, chambers of commerce, private operators and the like, and if we were to tell them differently they would not believe us." We are willing to accept this as a fact, but it only shifts the blame to the issuers of the misleading literature, and these will protest they publish only facts, and probably could in the majority of cases prove their contention, by advancing special instances as averages.

A few years ago a man might hear himself dubbed a Californian liar and consider himself flattered, because his truthful stories of the wonders of the Golden State were almost beyond the credence of those who had never been within its borders, but strangers to our land are growing scarcer and some of us, having become fishers of men, have after the habit of fishermen, taken to gross exaggeration. Now the term Californian liar may mean just superlative aptitude in the accomplishment indicated. It would seem that this reputation is hardly worth having, particularly as the Californian Truth is so big and splendid.

Supposing San Diego were to take as a motto "There is no boost better than the truth" and acting on it in this year of our exposition seek to inform the inquirer, on any subject, fully both as to the bad points as well as the good. Supposing she makes a bid to be known as the City that dares tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth." Would not such a reputation be a good business investment? As a last supposition, suppose we revise all our boost literature, heading it with the above suggested motto and letting the spirit thereof guide the blue pencil.

The passing of John Muir in the fullness of years merits from nature lovers more than the passing attention given the event in the daily press. He was not only a real intimate of nature, but a past master at word painting and his books should be owned and read by all lovers of our Californian forests and mountains. We never had the privilege of meeting Mr. Muir, but we have hardly a friend who had not. One of the fortunate ones who lived in his vicinity related to us how about a year ago she spent an afternoon with this big tree among men and he wandered in conversation with her among his haunts in the High Sierras. As the sitting ended, she, almost breathless with her rapt attention, exclaimed, "Oh Mr. Muir, I have so enjoyed this"! and he retorted, "And so you ought; I could have got $100.00 for that lecture."

If you cannot go to your mountains get "The Mountains of California" and "Our National Parks" by John Muir, and if you can go, get them just the same for they will give you eyes to see what you should see.

Education in Monthly Meetings

SEEDS, Seedlings and Soils" furnished an interesting topic for discussion at the Floral Association meeting in Bestnt Hall, Tuesday evening, January 19.

In introducing the subject Ralph Sumner, of the Exposition Nurseries, told of the working parts of a seed, each seed containing the plant in miniature.

The seed is made up of a radicle, which later becomes the stem and roots; the plumule, which becomes the growing bud and from which the leaves sprout; and the cotyledons, which are the first leaves to show above ground. They are called the feeding leaves because they draw nourishment from the fleshy part of the seed until the roots are strong enough to feed the plant from the ground.

After the seedling plant has a root system established, as indicated by the wilting of the seed leaves when they are in evidence, then it is time to transplant, or prick out into richer soil.

There are three kinds of cotyledonous seeds. The mono-cotoledonous starts with one leaf only, such as all grains, lilies, etc. The dicotoledons start with two leaves, and comprise nearly all of our herbaceous or flowering plants. The poly-cotoledons have several in a whorl, as in the pine.

An orange seed has more than one embryo in a single seed, which is shown by several plumules and as many radicles sprouting from the same seed. In classifying wildflowers it is necessary to know how many cotyledons a seed has, so as to tell whether it is a dicot, or a monocot. The rule is that a plant with parallel veined leaves is a monocot, and one having netted veined leaves is a dicot, but then comes certain exceptions which seem to disprove the rule.

There are all kinds of seeds from the flaxseed to the cocoanut and Nature has many ways of disseminating them. The maple seed takes wings, the burrclover takes hold of you with hooks and many seeds float down streams but this time of year the interesting thing about seeds is the planting of them in our gardens.

In the first place they must be good seed. If we collect it ourselves, it should be taken from the largest flowers on the strongest plants; and if we buy it, we should be assured that it is not too old and has been properly gathered.

Don't be backward about writing to many firms for their catalogues, as new varieties are being brought out every year, but at the same time we must use care as a seed catalogue can make some ordinary flowers look to be the most desirable of all.

Such seeds as nasturtiums, sweetpeas, poppies and wildflowers can be planted directly into the ground, but to germinate they must never be allowed to dry out. In planting very small seed, like begonia, which must be sown on the surface, the ground is kept moist by covering with glass. Seeds of this kind are too tender to be sown in the open, so they are started in boxes.

Soil for starting seedlings must have about three-fourths sand and the other fourth composed equally of loam and leafmold. This loose soil will not bake and still has enough food to start the young plants. As soon as the tiny plants get sufficient root system established, they must be pricked out into another box where they will have room enough to grow, and where the soil contains more nourishment. The next move is to transplant them into the ground, being careful to see that the earth is pressed firmly about the roots, or they will die.

The location is another important consideration. Ferns, begonias and violets will not do well in the direct sunlight; neither will the sunflower thrive in dense shade. Cold drafts and strong winds are not conducive to successful plant growth.

It is encouraging to see that many people are taking to planting wild flowers, as the endless variety will supply almost any need. Several places on the Exposition grounds have been planted to wildflowers and some are blooming already.

It is not too late to plant wildflowers even now. The soil should be plowed, smoothed, the seed sown, raked in and then rolled if possible.

Discussions of the different branches of the subject, brought out many suggestions, some of which are as follows:

The great lack of our soil here in Southern California is humus, therefore it is almost a crime to haul away or burn anything in the way of leaves, weeds, or litter of any kind. The weeds should be turned under while green. Strawy manure supplies the humus as well as nourishes.

It is noticeable that some of the best soil for raising crops is found on the edge of alkali patches, seeming to indicate that the soil from which the alkali has been drained is better for its having been through it.

Some plants seem to be better for having been transplanted, and the theory is that the

breaking of the taproot causes a better root system to be established.

The Floral Association is planning on a show of bulb flowers to be given before the first of April. This will give an opportunity of seeing many fine flowers in bloom which are too late for the regular Fall Flower Show and too early for the Spring Rose Show.

Mr. Fred Grumm, who is taking a three months turn as a music committee, gave us the pleasure of listening to very enjoyable piano numbers by Miss Marjorie Snyder and Miss Hazel Burnham.

Agricultural Dept. Experiments

That the climate of eastern China is similar to that of eastern North America seems to be the reason for the success which has attended the introduction of many Chinese plants into this country; at least this is the opinion of the specialists in the United States Department of Agriculture's Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction. In a new publication of this office which lists seeds and plants imported during the fall of 1912 a definite report is given on the growth of 79 different importations from China, most of which may be termed successful. Plant introductions from foreign countries are distributed by the office until sufficient time has elapsed to give some indication of their possibilities in this country.

A maple which grows 70 feet high, whose leaves turn a golden yellow in autumn, is one of the ornamental trees introduced from China of which something may be expected. A Chinese elm particulary adapted for dry sections for windbreak purposes has proven very satisfactory and will be more generally introduced. A pine tree and a Chinese butternut also have grown well here. It is hoped that these all may prove as ornamental and useful as the gingko tree (also known as the maiden-hair fern tree) which has grown so well along a number of the streets of our Capital.

A peach which bears an edible fruit containing a smooth stone (something quite unknown heretofore among peaches) has been brought from China, and may be used to improve our commercial peach. A tree that grows in roadside thickets in parts of China bears a fine variety of quince, golden on one side and reddish on the other. This also has done well in its new environment. So have a new hazel-nut bush bearing large nuts, and three new varieties of holly.

The adaptability of the Chinece wood-oil tree for cultivation in northern Florida seems to have been proven by recent experiments. A tree at Tallahassee, Florida, bore two bushels of the fruit last season. In addition to being an economically important tree, it is a decidedly ornamental one. It bears clusters of white flowers with reddish-yellow centers, and in full bloom resembles a catalpa.

Chinese plants are not the only ones that have been doing well in the Department of Agriculture's garden for foreign plants. Others from the West Indies, Australia, Spain, South America, Hawaii, and the Philippines are showing interesting possibilities. Interested experimenters may receive further information about these trees and plants by addressing the office of Foreign Plant and Seed Introduction, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Birthday of Plaza Palms

On January 28, 1897, seventeen years ago, the twenty-eight cocos plumosa were planted around the Plaza, in front of where the Grant Hotel now stands. They were then from two to two and a half feet tall. The holes were well prepared, four feet square and seven feet deep, being filled with good fresh soil mixed with fertilizer. One can easily anticipate the beauty of the Sixth Street Park Avenue when the double row of cocos plumosa, now so well established, are seventeen years old. A great asset to the city and the adjacent property. However, if apartment houses continue to be erected flush with the property line on the west side, the inside row of palms will be ruined. The beauty of the west side planting will be destroyed. Here is work for the Civic Association to get very busy with the property owners, for they are throwing away their very asset of value but don't know it and won't know it until it is too late.

Southern Plants Going North

Mr. Dan McRorie, of San Francisco, was a hurried visitor last week. He incidentally had been in Los Angeles to buy up seventeen carloads of plants. The south evidently is some producer for the north. Wonder if that Panama-Pacific Exposition needs our southern plants to make her look really festive and sunny?

The Vegetable Garden

By WALTER BIRCH

WE should all be indeed truly thankful to the Bountiful Providence this year, for the plenteous winter rains that have fallen and which mean so much to Southern California, and more particularly to San Diego, at a time when she is playing hostess to so many visitors from far and near. The beauties of our exposition and park will be doubly enhanced by this thorough drenching, and you may be sure that full advantage will be taken of nature's thorough irrigation by the capable men in charge of both park and exposition.

It is apropos right here to emphasize the importance of thorough cultivation, and deep stirring up of the soil as soon as it is dry enough. You will reap all sorts of benefits by so doing, and if you persistently keep a good deep mulch with a fine surface during the spring and summer, you will conserve the moisture in the ground and your plants of all kinds will make twice the growth.

Owing to the recent heavy rains there has been little planting done so far in either the ornamental or fruit line. February is one of the best, if not the best, planting months in the year, and any one contemplating setting out a family orchard, should get busy at once. Should we get bright sunshiny weather after these rains (and we are sure to get it) the sap will begin to flow almost at once in most varieties of deciduous fruit trees, so that the sooner they are planted out the better, thereby eliminating the loss which almost always occurs when trees are set out after the dormant period is passed.

In addition to the usual vegetable garden, every one should have a nice selection of fruit trees and berries for home use. With proper care the berries will yield a good crop the secon year, and the fruit trees the third year from planting.

Get your rose bushes planted now so that you will have plenty of seasonable blooms, and take advantage of the present moist condition to set out those ornamental plants and shrubs that you have had in mind for so long. Remember that in the ordinary course of events we may not have so favorable a planting season for several years to come, so do not neglect to get your share of the beenfits to be had; by not taking full advantage of the opportunity offered by the present favorable conditions.

On the vegetable garden you can keep good and busy this month. Be sure and cultivate thoroughly everything you already have growing, and thoroughly prepare all ground, not already stirred by deep spading and fertilizing. Where you sow your seed be sure and have a finely raked surface that will retain the moisture as well as being a good seed bed.

You may still plant asparagus roots, cabbageplants, horseradish roots, rhubarb roots, strawberry plants, etc., and continue to sow beets, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions, parsley, parsnips, radishes, turnips, and start your tomato and pepper plants in hot beds or some sunny location where you can protect them.

February is one of the best planting months for potatoes. You will find the Early Rose, American Wonder and Burbank good varieties to plant, the latter two being white potatoes, would be preferable for marketing.

In the flower garden you can now set out a number of bedding plants, pansies, verbenas, stocks, centaureas, carnations, calendulas, etc., thereby securing a good show of blooms during the spring and summer. In bulbs it will soon be time for tuberoses, tuberous rooted begonias with their wonderfully rich colors, and the different varieties of dahlias. Altogether under present conditions the garden and ornamental grounds can prove an unlimited source of pleasure and wholesome exercise, and we cannot better employ ourselves every spare minute, than by getting out in the open and getting closer to nature and "listen to things grow."

A Northern Visitor

Mr. Emory E. Smith was a recent visitor, coming with the San Francisco Panama-Pacific delegation. He was delighted with the Exposition planting and setting and left an order for San Diego specialties for his Contra Costa home. Mr. Smith is the author of that delightful book, "The California Poppies," and is now collecting material for a similar book on the Aloes. The Agaves, the Echevarias, the Mesembryanthemums, each and all deserve their champions and their stories to be written. What a delightful and profitable plant work there is to be done in this far away and exclusive corner of the United States. Some day we won't seem so far away and our light will shine as a new beacon light on Point Loma.

Jasmine Primulinum is just showing flower. It is a fine vine but loves to droop down and bloom, after it has climbed to top of post or trellis or pergola. Everybody should observe it this season.

The ROSE---Plant Now

I HAVE heard of no action by Council or Nurseryman looking to a civic rose planting so am constrained to return to the everlasting attack on the poor individual taxpayer. I know he does not want to plant roses or anything else but the assessor and tax collector, so I would whisper in his ear that roses have not yet appeared on the schedule. Watches, cows, sewing machines and billiard tables have been corralled as having an immediate sale value, but when you put your money into rosebushes, it is where the assessor does not assess and the collector cannot collect, neither can you if the only coin you know is minted or printed. All this persiflage to say that if you intend to plant roses, do it now. The time is ripe so is the stock and the soil fairly shrieks for something worth while to work on.

Dig in that mulch now before it turns to dust and don't be too particular to do a smooth job. More rains are coming and the moisture penetrates a rough surface easier than a slick one. This digging is for the good of the bushes, not just for appearance.

Have you pruned? There is to be no repetition of the advice on this head published in the January Garden, but I will tell you the parable of the three brothers, of whom I was one. No. 1 fresh from much rose experience in California visited No. 3 of small experience in England, and moved by his ruling passion and after the manner of rose devotees all the world over, proceeded to put his brother's bushes in perfect order. It was the time of the planting and missing from the collection some of his favorites he ordered these from a world famous grower and to make room for them chopped down, without a care for its great age that should have commanded respect an ancient boxwood. Where it had grown for a century perhaps, he made the new rose bed according to the proscribed technique of the craft, and after the planting came the pruning. Now up to this time No. 3 had watched proceedings with that carelessness which is properly employed when inspecting the mouth of a gift horse, but as No. 1 began to whittle away branch by branch of the recently arrived bushes, which had evidently been considerably foreshortened before starting on their journey, the former mildly, but with ill-concealed anxiety inquired if further mutiliation were really necessary, to be assured that a valid reason could be given for every cut. When the job was finished it resembled the work of a very small child who had not yet learned to make sticks stand up straight, and No. 3 evidently regarded the future crop of bloom without enthusiasm.

No. 2 now appeared flushed with floral triumphs in his vicinity and in his pocket he carried a recently acquired patent folding pruning shear and he ached to combine its use with his knowledge of how to make the young rose shoot. Less than an hour after his arrival, he discovered the addition to the rose garden and his hand went into his pocket and came out with the shears. It was useless for No. 3 to protest that No. 1 had already cut every thing to the bone, No. 2 went over every bush branch by branch and accomplished something resembling a clipper haircut, the whole operation being freely punctuated by the unavailing protests of No. 3.

Both 1 and 2 departed leaving 3 with his mutilated stumps and neither appeared again till the fall of that year, when they enquired after the behavior of the roses and No. 3 with some reluctance admitted that the twice shaved bed had supplied countless births, marriages and deaths besides minor festivals, and this in spite of a third minor operation by a local expert who did not approve of the angle of the cuts made previously. If there be any moral to this truthful tale it might be expressed thus "Sentiment is out of place when pruning roses." '

Why not grow some roses in large pots or baskets, so that they may be available for porch decoration or even to go indoors? In view of the fact that this supposes a specimen plant rather than merely good blooms, it would seem advisable to choose for the experiment varieties that flower often and much at a time, were free from mildew and had a branching habit. As a suggestion Cecile Bruner the bush variety of course, Perle d'Or, any bushy polyantha, Dr. Grill, Mrs. Waddell, Souvenir de Pierre Notting, Mons. Tilliers, Prince of Bulgaria, General MacArthur, and Duchess de Brabant.

Perfect drainage must be provided at the bottom of the container but the soil mixture should be rather stiff and heavy. At this time of year the potted plants should be in full sunlight out of drafts and not kept too wet. It would be better to raise the pots off the ground an inch or so; in any case they should be moved frequently to prevent rooting through into the earth. As growth starts more water can be given and shoots nipped back to make a good head. When buds have started liquid fertiliser can be supplied every third watering and very weak. Aim at a sturdy bushy plant.

First Bulb Show *by the* Floral Association—March 19-21

The Exposition---Horticulturally

By G. R. GORTON

OUR EXPOSITION having specialized on its horticultural features, it is difficult to do more than mention in a rather superficial way, some of these features which perhaps would be most apt to attract the attention of the visitor at this time.

Possibly he would consider the groups of giant Phoenix as being the most conspicuous objects at the entrance—especially if he knows that they have been in their present location less than three years.

The acacias floribunda and baileyana—the latter just coming into its mass of golden bloom, are sure to make their appeal to the lover of these typically Californian shrubs.

Approaching the Puente Cabrillo he passes, successively, masses of Abelia rupestris, just now wearing a sort of autumnal tint, various Bottle Brushes, Leptospermum laevigatum, Escallonia alba, Grevillea thelemanniana, Cassia tomentosa, Tecoma capensis, the last four in flower. Passing across Cabrillo canyon, and under the two arches joining the California and Fine Arts Buildings, he enters the "Prado"—the main street of exhibit buildings.

The "Prado" is lined with Acacia melanoxylon—the popular Blackwood acacia. The arcades which form a shady walk from building to building furnish a support for Bignonia venusta—just now in full flower.

The Coprosma forms a deep green background for the bright red of Poinsettia blossoms. On the second plaza—the "Plaza de Panama" the arcades are resplendent in the magenta of Bougainvillea braziliensis, and just beyond—again on the "Prado" the arcades on one side are clothed with the terra cotta Bougainvillea (lateritia) and on the other with more Bignonia venusta. The shrubbery here is largely of "needley" plants, such as acacia verticillata, Grevillea thelemanniana, with its delicate feathery foliage and dainty red flowers, and here and there a Hakea or a Casuarina.

In a Mission Patio San Diego Exposition

Copyright 1914 Panama-Calif. Exposition

The corners of the buildings are given over in some instances to sub-tropical groups of many species, including Phoenix canariensis, Erythea (edulis and armata), Cocos plumosa Chamaerops (both humilis and excelsa), etc., combined with Dracaenas, Phormium tenax, Eucalyptus and Acacias.

In the groups in front of the Foreign Arts Building are one or two Pittosporum phillyraeoides, a "weeping" Pittosporum of rather interesting habit. Some of the entrances are guarded by solitary specimens of Dracaena indivisa, others by tall Italian cypress.

There are, here and there, around the

grounds, interesting groups of specimen plants. One such is a group east of the Food Products Building. This group contains Gunneras, Musa ensete (the Abysinian banana), Sterculia acerifolia, Corypha australis, Hibiscus mutabilis, Derringea, and many others.

The Streptosolen jamesonii in front of the Southern California Counties Building has attracted much attention with its wealth of bloom. The same group contains a fine specimen of Wigandia macrophylla.

The patio shown in one of the cuts accompanying this article is typical of much of the sub-tropical planting, and contains a number of good specimens of this class.

There is, north of the California Building, a planting of meadow grasses and wild flowers which promises much for the near future.

thuriums (both the ornamental leaved types and the "Flamingo Flower" which are always on show.

There is very much to interest the visitor, be he "amateur" or "professional' 'in matters horticultural, and he may profitably spend hours and days studying and enjoying.

East from Plaza de Panama

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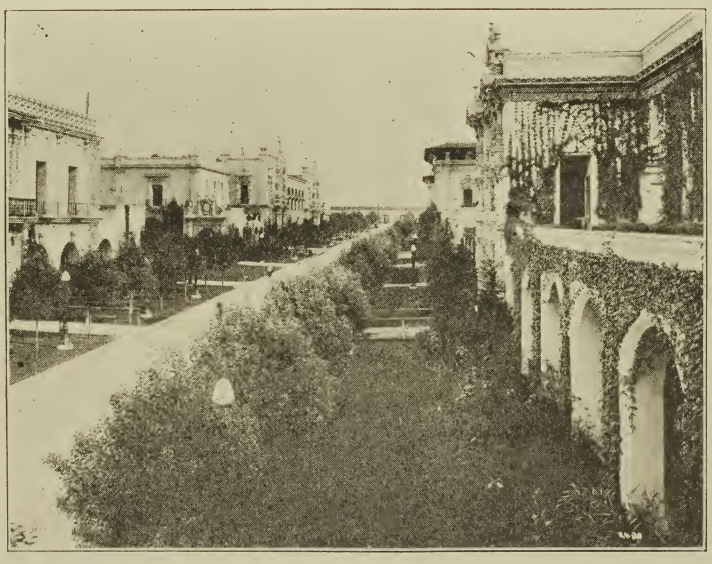

There is also a similar plot at the bottom of Cabrillo Canyon—north of the bridge.

The aquatic plantings are worthy of mention. There is the naturalistic planting around and in the lagoon in Cabrillo canyon —the lilies and lotus, however, are hibernating just now, but promise well for the warmer months soon to come. The more formal pool in front of the Botanical Building contains some of Mr. Sturtevant's best in Lotus and Lilies, together with the other usual aquatics such as the Water Hyacinth, Water Poppy, Parrot's feather, Thalias, Arrowhead, Water Iris, etc.

Inside the Botanical Building the Azaleas are now at their best, as are also the Primulas, Streptocarpus, Saintpoulias, (the dainty little African Violets) and many others, besides the curious Philadendrons, Cretons, An-

Bulb Flower Show to be Held March 19-21

The date of the first Bulb Flower Show by the San Diego Floral Association has been set for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 19, 20 and 21, and in all probability will be held in one of the buildings on the Exposition grounds. Naturally the bulb show will not be as large as the Spring Rose Show, to follow a little later, but it can be made just as interesting and just as beautiful, if all the members of the Floral Association, and all other growers of bulb flowers will being now to prepare for exhibits. Some very interesting special features are already being planned and suggestions are invited, to the end that we may make the flower show days as pleasant and as profitable as any of the special feature days at the Exposition. It was decided to extend the exhibit over three days, in order that it may be visited by business and other working people who cannot see it on a week day. The admission to the grounds will be the only charge.

Put your bulbs in training for the show.

A Walk in the Rain

ALFRED D. ROBINSON

I HAVE been for a walk in the rain, not purposely for I was too ignorant for that, but because muddy roads had relegated the auto to an infrequent ease of contemplation of its own smell, and the sun had broken through the clouds for a delusive few minutes. All the extra accoutrement usual to an expedition when it has rained, is raining or may be about to rain had been mislaid, so I sallied forth unencumbered by anything that might remind me that I really ought not to have come. When the sun had lured me exactly half way between home and my destination, he hid behind a cloud and said to it "now you have him" and that cloud promptly began to sprinkle. A trifle annoyed I hurried along sheltering my basket of perishable freight under my coat, and was inclined to quarrel with fate when, my errand accomplished, I found it still raining. I considered my well-worn shoes, that a Belgian might have disdained, my jacket that even the maker had never guaranteed rainproof, my futile little cap that had already skillfully directed its drips down my neck and thought "If I am to get wet, here goes," and I sallied forth thinking myself the old fool that has no counterpart.

No sooner had I started than my attitude changed. I felt that the countless nature fairies who revel in the rain had bidden me to their feast and my interest wandered outside my unimportant self. The rain was soft and warm, it beat upon my face and hands like the caress of loving fingers, and I smiled as the thought occurred, how good for the complexion. The path led over a hill still covered with the aromatic wild shrubbery and every little bush and plant was smelling its very sweetest. At the back of the last house a Leghorn pullet perched on top of a wild mahogany bush, and her comb was aflame with appreciation of the weather. A rabbit sat on the path ahead and washed his face, evidently reluctant to leave the job and make way for the man. With a whirr, a covey of quail crossed so close that a movement of their wings could almost be felt and alighted within a handspring, leisurely disappearing in the brush. A California Flicker flew past in long dips crying his call and a flock of little canaries rose up to him out of the chaparral and asked what was the matter. Then half a dozen meadow larks executed a half circle, showing their yellow breasts with the maroon horseshoe and settled again, the white feathers in their tails vanishing last in the tall brown grass of last year. All these chaps were so happy because of the rain; they were out in it because they loved it, not simply for what it meant in grass and grubs in the future, but for the feel and joy of it in the present. They called to one another, "It's raining, come out and play", and their spirit raised me out of my shoes that now were frankly sodden and had given up any pretense of keeping out anything. Under the old-man bush I saw the yellow violet running and making leaves, beside it the shooting star was building its whorl and a hundred green things were growing with all their tiny might as if to say "Let us make growth while the rain rains, for the dry summer comes when no plant can grow."

I stooped and plucked a white forgetmenot and put it in my buttonhole and laughed to feel my coat wet: the tiny blossom further opened my eyes so that I could see, the bloom of the wild mahogany caught my attention, and also a patch of purple nightshade bordering the path; over on one side three Blackeyed Susans made a speck of color in the sea of green. I stepped off into the grass to investigate a fleck of pale yellow under a bush and found it a nasturtium strayed from the haunts of men and very frightened to be out in the rain, just as if it were a human, and later I came on oxalis and sweet alyssum also straying.

It was horrible to leave the path through the brush for a road that had been graded and leveled and straightened till even birds and beasts refused to use it. Here, in front of his house standing disconsolately on his concrete sidewalk, I encountered a human. He had on gumshoes and a raincoat and carried an umbrella and he regarded with dispair the quite insignificant ravages of the rain upon the grade of the street in front of him. My new understanding of the rain had evidently gone to my head for I gave him one look and sank sitting on the sidewalk laughing immoderately. He regarded me in surprised wrath remarking, "Funny, isn't? Wish you had to pay damages." I realized then I was not really a fairy and had but a limited ticket to fairy land so I replied with some show of contrition, "I apologize; there was nothing personal in my mirth, I am subject to fits, but please do go in out of the rain," then I went home and as I lingered reluctant to go in before the door, a voice came out of an upstairs window, "Lovie what are you doing there in the rain, with your cold too?" I opened the door mentally ejaculating, "You are only a man after all," and I fear I added a swear word, which I won't recall even now.

Save Orange By-Products

Mr. E. Moulie, of perfumery fame, is now endeavoring to awaken the ranchers and fruit growers to a knowledge of the valuable by-products now going to waste. We are the largest growers of oranges and lemons in the world, yet we buy the by-products of these fruits from other countries to the amount of millions of dollars, while we throw away and let rot the elements of such an income. We could supply our own needs and export to other countries as well.

In 1909 we imported lemon oil, orange peel oil, bergamot oil, neroli oil, lemon, lime and sour orange juice, citrus of lime and citric acid amounting to $1,604,000, besides a large sum for candied peel, concentrated orange juice and other by-products, bringing the total well above the two million dollar mark.

There should be a market for all oranges not eatable and the thousands of boxes now allowed to rot should be made to pay a handsome income to the grower.

Even the orange blossoms will give returns in dollars and cents. Oil of orange flowers was known as early as the sixteenth century. In the seventeenth century it was made a fashionable perfume by the Princess of Neroli, hence it was given the name of essence of Neroli. We import annually about $200,000 worth of this oil. Oil of petit grain is obtained by the distillation of unopened buds and tender leaves from prunings. Of this oil we also import about $200,000 worth. The water distillates from these two oils gives orange flower water, and of this we also import a like sum, making $600,000 that we send to foreign countries which might just as well be kept at home.

Orange blossom pomades are obtained by maceration, and are by far the most valuable and costly for the perfumer. Without them no perfume of high standard of fineness and delicacy can be obtained. Of these we undoubtedly import $400,000 worth. Taking all things into consideration, according to Mr. Moulie, we are robbing ourselves of $3,000,000 annually that the orange tree could save us, and it would mean much more than that if we grew to be exporters instead of importers.

The orange growers and the manufacturing perfumers must share the responsibility for this great economic loss. In working to keep the raw products on the free list the perfumers said they would have to go out of business if a duty was placed on them, claiming that they were not produced in this country. Many perfumers prefer to imitate rather than originate. They buy French formulas, French names and French raw materials.

If we would look after these by-products, millions more acres could be utilized in this great industry, and thousands more people would be enabled to make a living out of the captivating occupation.

"Mission Memories"

Some weeks ago, Mr. E. Moulie, instituted a contest for the best name to give his California flower perfume. The prize offered was twenty dollars in gold, and Munn & Co., of the Scientific American, accepted the task of selecting the best name from the many hundreds submitted.

It was no slight task as it was not only necessary to select euphonious words but they must conform to the trade mark laws. They finally chose the words "Mission Memories," suggested by Miss Amy Sebree Smith, of 3733 Indiana St., this city. The universal verdict is that the choice is an excellent one, and the trade mark eminently appropriate in every way.

Distribution of Rose Seeds

Seeds of the "Rosa Centifolia" sent from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, are being distributed by E. Moulie, at 724 Broadway, to those who are sufficiently interested to plant and care for them properly. This is considered one of the best roses for perfume.

Valuable Book

The Proceedings of the Convention of California Nurserymen held in San Diego last October have been published and copies can be obtained of the Secretary H. W. Kruckeberg 237 Franklin St., Los Angeles for fifty cents, a quite negligible sum when the great interest and value of the contents are considered. Among the subjects treated are Soils, Home Garden and City Beautiful and kindred matters and it is all the experience of practical men in combating problems that have arisen and will arise again right in our midst.

Bridal Veil Genista—In the Spring this peculiar shrub is full of bloom and very decorative, fragrant and unique. It will be worth while for plant lovers to investigate its merits. It has a very weeping habit and is of course hard to grow into a straight and shapely trunk and stem, but if it was trained to the post of a pergola and then allowed to fall and droop over the top because of the pergola it would make a very attractive and valuable decoration. Its foliage is very silvery and like coarse threads; no leaves are apparent. The flowers are pure white, fragrant, small and borne in great profusion.

The Early Bird is Peeved about Garden Tools

ONLY one person commented on my etiquette treatise of last month and that one was mildly amused so I am emboldened to again make an excursion outside my province which is popularly supposed to be bounded by a grub, a worm, a beetle and a frog. I am almost crop-bound with a desire to chirrup a few things about garden tools and I will have relief.

Firstly I am amazed at the small number and general inadaptability of garden tools. The little hand plows and their attachments are not considered for they figure only in large gardens, turn a man into a beast of burden and introduce into the garden the horrible unrest of the business world; the spirit of quantity rather than quality; the action of the machine rather than the individual. They stand for standardization, even spacing, straight rows and the rule of thumb and are not less offensive that they have become a necessity and are very effective.

In hand tools there are, in some variety of shape and size it is admitted, trowels, hoes, spades, rakes and a wheelbarrow, and by aid of these what a mighty work is wrought.

The trowel like the ant is a small proposition, yet it has bored its way into thousands of palms. The universally inefficient handle of trowels of all denominations has caused millions of blisters, and yet while evolution has made a submarine out of Noah's Ark that palm blistering handle has remained on trowels of the garden species, I understand certain unionised mechanics have modified or adapted theirs. Certainly it must be possible to have a shape to grasp that will allow of digging more than half a dozen holes without skinning one's palm. As to the shape of the blades it is enough to say that the most effective garden trowel is one made for mason's use, so that the gardener in buying asks for a mason's pointing trowel.

Under the head of trowels come a lot of futile things variously labelled, such as scratchers, weeders and the like. These leave the factory to foregather on five-cent bargain counters, thence to litter up shelves and benches where garden operations begin.

Consider the hoe in its dual nature, for I know of but two, THE hoe, and the dutch variety which is quit impotent in the presence of gravelly soil. Oh yes, there are big hoes and little hoes and hoes in between, but they are all constructed to administer a steady jar to the operator's system, and their use if continued long enough would make a man throw stones at his grandmother. Among collections of implements used during the stone age you will find our garden hoe of today to all intents and purposes. Let a man take our hoe, one of those with a gilded blade and a variously colored paper round its handle, and try to hoe under a low growing bush. It's an Exposition season ticket to a green trading stamp that at the end of half an hour the hoe handle is broken, the man's back almost so and the weeds still contemptuously growing under the bush, where they will continue unless the man recovers enough to crawl in and pull them out by hand. A simple knife on a long handle with blade bent at right angles and tilted a bit would probably solve the difficulty and give an instrument that could be operated by pulling. Just the thought will be a relief if you ever did much of that chop, chop, jar, jar. Do you know the nigger hoe? a fearful instrument of torture, hung to its handle by a hole in its head, heavy and unlovely in every line. Every one I ever saw slid down its handle and skinned the knuckles of its operator as he swung it or was kept in place with a wedge of an old shoe top. Oh, Mr. Inventor man, give us a hoe that will hoe weeds without harrowing the soul.

My chief criticism on spades, all kinds, even when they are trying to be forks, is that their manufacture and sale is too promiscuous. If a man playing a game of billiards can get a cue balanced to his taste to an ounce, when his need of it is usually limited to an hour, why cannot the gardener do likewise with his spade that he plies by the day. Surely it would be simple to mark each tool with its weight. Compare this factor in the tools of other trades with its absence in garden work.

Rakes lack in variety. There would seem to be no good reason why any spacing desired between the teeth is not procurable, why there should not be an adjustable handle so that the rake proper could be set at any angle and so be regulated as to width. Rakes could have little hoes at the ends, to save that futile digging at weeds that is done with them as they now are. They could have on reverse a scraper to render them more effective in moving soil and levelling, a constant operation, and they might be fitted with removable teeth so as to span rows of small seedlings.

And lastly the wheelbarrow, the old man of the sea that has humped so many backs. My

only relief in thinking of it is that it has become chronically diseased in the legs in these latter days. I can not recall one that ever reached an honorable age, that could stand erect without leaning against something, and most of them spring ribs. The flat so-called garden barrow has the leg trouble most acutely and that round bellied one suffers more with rib evil. Did you ever use this last pattern to move boxes of seedlings? It has a professional bucking broncho skinned a mile, and can dump a load forwards backwards and sideways all at the same time. Now I have seen trucks with wheels underneath them not over a foot from the ground that would turn any way you please, pulled by a drop handle that could be raised to suit the puller, and once I went and asked at a store that handles such things if I could have one for my garden work, but a middleaged gentleman said No! and volunteered the information, "You want a wheelbarrow." Now why cannot the garden have a truck modified to suit its needs?

Here is one more tip for the garden supply man. Did you ever notice a weed in your garden path without trying to kick it out with the toe of your shoe? If so you are the only one. Why not make a metal cap with a blade that will slip on the toe and in sizes to fit shoes?

I would just like to catch a gang of inventors and work them in my garden for a season and I feel sure the next year would see half the backaches eliminated.

THE DAHLIA

A. D. ROBINSON

BY the end of February or the beginning of March can be made the first sowing of dahlia seed (if you have none, California Garden has a package for a new subscriber). It is borne in upon me forcibly to advocate the sowing of dahlia seed in the ground, giving it some slight protection till it sprouts, when it should have the benefit of all the sun there is. Most readers of this will wish to raise less than one hundred plants and don't have to economise with time to the extent of not being able to take pains to do this seed sowing to the very best advantage, and to these is recommended the following formula:

Select a location with full sun and out of the wind. If the soil is fairly sandy it will require no treatment; if heavy or stiff add sand. Spade up the ground and level, as there must be no slope that will interfere with watering. Before digging, the earth should be thoroughly moist. Take a lath or thin board and with the edge mark the plot off into two inch squares, this will give 144 in two feet. Plant a seed at every intersecting line, squeezing each one to see if it contains a kernel. The seed should be covered half an inch. When the planting is done take a board and with your weight firm the ground. If the weather be very hot or windy a sack may be thrown over, but the whole operation is designed to grow sturdy plants and no protection should be given unless absolutely necessary. This sounds formidable, but the whole operation ought to be finished in two hours of leisurely enjoyment of grubbing in the earth. The benefits over the usual broadcast sowing are the elimination of crowding, the nemesis of so many dahlia seedlings, and the rendering unnecessary any transplanting till that into the final location. Considering the whole operation from seed to blooming plant this method is a time saver. Should any seed fail to come up, others may be put in the place, but this should not be done in a hurry as the seed does not always germinate evenly.

A similar spacing and individual seed planting is strongly recommended even when shallow boxes are used. It is quite frequently the case that the smallest and weakest seedlings finally yield the best flowers. A very strong grower is apt to be a reversion to the small single flowered type.

A few years ago the so-called Tree dahlia (Imperialis) was quite freely grown here, but last year I do not remember to have seen one. This is not as it should be. The plant is beautiful and quite unique, making wonderful specimens when well grown. It will reach a height of eight to ten feet and have a hundred of its lavender bell-like flowers blowing at one time. Its chief objection is its late blooming habit, which exposes it at its best development to early rains and winds. These play havoc with it as the side branches break from the main stem at a cross word or breath. In spite of all this it should be planted. It is very easily grown from seed and unlike other dahlias comes true.

Dont forget Geisha.

Harris Seed Catalogue Ready

The Harris Seed Company has just issued a fine catalogue of trees, plants and seeds, nicely illustrated and with a concise description of each. The catalogue will be mailed to their regular patrons, and others may secure them by calling at their store, 824 F St., or by dropping them a card.

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

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FEBRUARY MEETING

The February regular meeting of the Floral Association will be held at the home of Mrs. W. L. Frevert, 3535 First Street, on the evening of the 16th. The subject will be "Hydrangeas and Kindred Shrubs" and one of the speakers will be a son of Japan, where the Hydrangea is raised to perfection. Take Third Street cars to Walnut Street.

MARCH REGULAR MEETING

The Floral Association will meet Tuesday evening, March 23, at the home of Miss Elizabeth Freese,, 3561 Sixth St. The subjects to be discussed are "Summer Blooming Bulbs," and "Color Effect in the Garden. Anyone interested will be welcome.

This past week we were favored with a call from Mr. Carl Purdy, of 'native bulb fame." He spent two days in San Diego for the first time inspecting the Exposition grounds and buildings. In a discussion about planting native seeds and bulbs, he said it was only necessary to clear the ground of small brush and break up the sod by spading or picking it loose. Into this broken up ground plant the seeds or bulbs and the best of results will follow. It is gratifying to learn that Californians are now good customers for native bulbs and seeds.

Mr. Purdy is in charge of all the plant exhibits sent to the Panama-Pacific Exposition; placing them and caring for them. He says that Holland is making an extra fine display of conifers and has sent able men to care for the exhibit.

ROSECROFT DAHLIA SEED

The Secretary is in receipt of many inquiries as to where Rosecroft dahlia seed may be purchased, and to all we make reply that there is just one way to get it and that is by getting a NEW subscriber to California Garden. The supply is very limited, on account of there being none gathered last season, and if the Garden was worth nothing, which we don't concede, the subscriber would still be getting full value for the price of a year's subscription from the seed. Everywhere they have gone, from San Diego, through California cities, and even to England, comes back only the highest praise of the resulting blooms.

Mr. Robert Asher, located at the Little Landers Colony, has been collecting native plants and roots near Campo, and has supplied some of the local nurserymen with the famous "Pride of California", the Lathyrus Splendens. This plant should be more universally grown and it is hoped that Mr. Asher will continue to collect these native treasures. Some day we must have a big native garden on some twenty-acre tract of our park.

The Guatemala Syringa is a vine that is rapid of growth, evergreen and well clothed to the ground. It is a winter bloomer and very frequently has stray blooms through spring and fall, with graceful sprays six to twelve inches long, a decided cream color and very fragrant. Such a vine is hard to duplicate.

This evergreen syringa was brought from Guatemala by Chas. Abrahams, the well known nurseryman of San Francisco, some twelve years ago. It was a good vine for that place, but a better one for this locality because of our milder climate. This vine here should cover pergolas, fences, sheds, and even grow well over large embankments. It is a vine with fine foliage, abundantly produced. Bunches of flowers displayed last September at the Nurserymen's Convention attracted more attention than any other one exhibit.

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EXOTIC NURSERIES

1420 State Street, Santa Barbara, California

General Garden Operations for February

Miss K. O. SESSIONS

EVERY established plant in the ground has a new lease of life from the bountiful rains and mild weather that January, 1915, has given us. Until the ground dries out to some extent it is unwise to spade over and move the soil—it is too wet—but we can pull the big weeds and make plans and so lose no time. It is often of great value to be compelled to walk around the garden twenty times and think, plan and see in our minds the changes, and not being able to carry out those plans for a few days. Thinking them over and over generally results in better planting later on.

Have you vines and shrubs enough on your outside fences? Have you a garden seat? If not, find a place for one and select a vine to shade it. Have you any mignonette growing in spare corners or beneath shrubs? If not, scatter a paper or two of seed. No garden should ever be free of mignonette, but it likes cool and wet ground to start in. Have you a corner for a few lavender plants? This is its planting season. Can you tuck in a bunch of Snapdragon or stock or a few dozen pansies? Every one will grow now like weeds. Do you own a Romneya Coulteri, the famous Matilija Poppy of California, the coveted plant of all Eastern and English plant lovers? No San Diego garden, no spare corner, no vacant neighboring lot can afford to be withou it.

Then there are the roses—the best is saved for the last. Before March 15th there should be thousands of roses planted. Mrs. Waddell, Marquis de Querhout, Sunburst, Madam Legund, Webber, the Lyon, Joseph Hill, American Pillar, Lena Smith Mitchell—these are all new and desirable sorts which have been admired at our flower shows, and read about in the catalogs. Then there are the old standbys. Climbing Papa Gontier, to make our Eastern friends envious of its growth; the Climbing Cecil Bruner, indispensable from any garden; Madam Alfred Carrier, with its longstemmed pearly white fragrant blooms. General McArthur has a rival in Edward Mawley, it is said, but Edward must first prove it to us in San Diego before we can trust in him, except for a trial. Madam Abel Chatenay, the Cochets, La Detroit, the Kaiserina A. Victoria, and her sport, the climber, are all desirable.

Spend an evening talking roses with your family, another with your neighbor, another with your friend, and then ring up your nurseryman.

From Bro. Barnhart

January 25th, 1915.

To The San Diego Floral Association.

Enclosed find a slip of paper, which, if you will place your signature on the back, and deposit in your Bank is good for ten slips of long green, of the denomination of one, issued by our common uncle, Samuel.

I trust that it will be as much pleasure for you to receive it, as it is to us to give it. The joy that comes from contributing to a worthy cause is ample compensation. May you all live long and your shadows never grow less, is the wish of your fellow, who, like yourselves, work for nothing and board yourselves in the laudable purpose of educating people to appreciate and cultivate flowers, cerials, fruits and vegetables, which they must grow or perish.

Well, say, was it not a benediction that God bestowed on the children of men when he put them under the necessity of earning their bread by the sweat of their brow?

Sincerely yours,

P. D. BARNHART,
Pacific Garden.

Long Beach Association

Long Beach now has a Horticultural Society inaugurated last October, which hopes to take its stand with others in the horticultural world. On January 12 officers for the ensuing year were elected. A. G. Adams, president; H. S. Morton, vice-president; Samuel Whitford, recording secretary; W. T. Lewis, treasurer; T. F. Bell, financial secretary. The executive committee appointed was: R. McMillan, Frank Rattings, T. Roberts. Meetings are held in the City Hall the second Tuesday in each month at 7:30 p. m. The society welcomes the attendance of all interested in horticulture. Plant Life on this coast will be taken as a special study. The secretary's address is Samuel Whitford, 1508 Appleton street, Long Beach, Cal.

Hall's "Garden Helps" 75c. Tells how to grow thinbs in Southern California.

Get ready for the Bulb Flower Show, March 19, 20 and 21.

SPRING GARDEN JABBERWOCKY
by Harvey Peake

'Twas spinach and the lima bean
Did kale and carrot in the pea:
All turnip were the peppers green
And parsnips celery.

"Beware the cabbage head, my son!
The beets that catch, the leeks that bite!
Beware the cucumber and shun
The cauliflowers' blight."

He took his cornstalk sword in hand,
Long time the onion foe he sought:
So rested he by the rhubarb tree,
And stood a while in thought.

And as in radish thought he stood,
The cabbage head, with eyes or flame,
Came endive through the parsley wood,
And okraed as it came!

One, two! One, two! and through and through,
The cornstalk blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He cantelouped back.

"And hast thou slain the cabbage head?
Come to my arms, my mustard boy!
Tomato, squash, green bean goulash!"
He artichoked in joy!

'Twas spinach and the lima bean
Did kale and carrot in the pea:
All turnip were the peppers green,
And parsnips celery.

SHRUBS

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30 days Only

My stock of shrubs is large and during the next thirty days I will make a sale of same, at 20 to 30 per cent. discount. Eleagnus variegata, Escallonia Alba, Eugenia myrtifolia, Streptosolen Jamesonii, Bridal Wreath Spirea, Solanum Rantonetti and Honeysuckles in three varieties.

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K. O. SESSIONS

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Madder'n a Wet Hen

LAST MONTH a man to whom we sold a rooster two years ago wrote and roundly cussed us and that bird as a pair of deadbeats, and his letter brought to our mind sundry texts, "Be sure your sin will find you out" and the like. We were almost stunned for a time, thus to have our ancient chicken tracks become evidence against us, and did not know just what to say in reply, a rare situation that brought some discomfort. In the nick of time we remembered our Artemus Ward and his story of how a cowpuncher severely mauled the figure of Judas Iscariot in his wax collection of the Twelve Apostles and alleged his treason as a just cause for the maltreatment of his effigy. When Artemus protested that the crime was committed some two thousand years ago, his despoiler rendered him incapable of further argument by stating that that did not matter as he had only heard of it yesterday.

We are incapable of argument with a man that takes two years to find out whether a rooster suits him or not, so we have recommended that he should study Artemus Ward and we would wager a Cassandra egg against a Chinese imported one that it takes him two more years to see the connection.

Friend Keene is printing a mating list for us carefully verifying each statement therein, but he cannot get over the astounding idiocy of our action at selling eggs at the price of $5.00 and $2.50 per setting of 13, nor yet can we, but we should like to know how many folks have got even that little money left. Just for encouragement let us state that a party at Elsinore sent the price of three lots and two others in Oakland one each before we opened for business.

This is not selling eggs, it is taking a census of five dollar pieces.

Cassandra is laying again.

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